

REMARKS:

Claims 1, 4, 6, 9 and 10 have been amended. Claims 1-11 remain in the application.

The oath or declaration was defective because it did not identify the city and state of residence of each inventor. Enclosed please find a duly executed oath or declaration which properly lists the residence information for each inventor identified. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the enclosed newly executed oath or declaration overcomes this defect and is respectfully submitted that the oath or declaration be accepted.

Claims 6 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 6 and 9 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 6 and 9, as amended, overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph and are allowable over this rejection.

Claims 1-6 and 9-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Domer, U.S. Patent No. 5,013,166. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

U.S. Patent No. 5,013,166 to Domer discloses a torsion bar bearing.

In contradistinction, Claim 1, as amended, claims a dynamic damper having a mass assembly including a plurality of discrete mass members. Each mass member having an inner surface, an outer surface and a first and second affixing member for affixing the mass member to another mass member of the assembly. The mass member assembly being affixable to a rotary shaft.

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Domer '166 does not disclose, teach or anticipate the present invention of claim 1, as amended. Specifically, Domer '166 does not disclose a dynamic damper having a plurality of discrete mass members each of the discrete mass members having a first and second affixing

member. Nowhere does Domer '166 disclose, teach or even suggest the use of having a first and second affixing member on each of the plurality of discrete mass members. As Domer '166 does not disclose, teach or even suggest the use of a first and second affixing member, it is respectfully submitted that Domer '166 fails to disclose all of the limitations claimed by Applicant in claim 1, as amended. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted, that claim 1, as amended, and the claims dependent therefrom, overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and are allowable over this rejection.

Claim 4, as amended, claims a dynamic damper comprising a mass member assembly including a plurality of mass members, each mass member having an inner surface extending from said mass member and an outer surface, the mass member assembly being affixable to a rotary shaft. The dynamic damper also includes a plurality of elongated connecting members.

Argt ² Domer '166 does not disclose, teach or anticipate the present invention of claim 4, as amended. Specifically, Domer '166 does not disclose a plurality of mass members with each mass member having an inner surface extending from the mass member. Nowhere does Domer '166 disclose, contemplate or even suggest the use of an inner surface that extends from each of a plurality of mass members. Domer '166 only discloses ribs integral with the inner face of a frame. Nowhere does Domer '166 disclose an inner surface extending from the inner face of the frame. Hence, it is respectfully submitted that Domer '166 fails to disclose all of the limitations claimed by Applicant in claim 4, as amended. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claim 4, as amended, and the claims dependent therefrom, overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and are allowable over this rejection.

Claims 7 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Domer '166. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

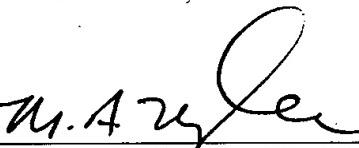
Claims 7 and 8 are allowable over Domer '166 for the same reasons stated above for independent claim 4. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 7 and 8 overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) and are allowable over this rejection.

If Applicant can be of any further assistance or provide any other information in the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (248) 377-1290.

Respectfully submitted,

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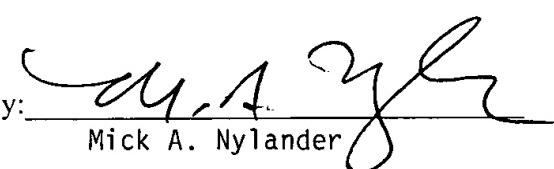
Dated: *April 21, 2003*

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service *as first class mail* addressed to: Hon. Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

Assistant

By:


Mick A. Nylander

MARKED UP VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 4, 6, 9 and 10 as follows:

- ✓ 1. (AMENDED) A dynamic damper, comprising:
a mass member assembly including a plurality of discrete mass members, each mass member having an inner surface, an outer surface, and a[n] first and second affixing member for affixing the mass member to another mass member of the assembly, the mass member assembly being affixable to a rotary shaft.
4. (AMENDED) A dynamic damper, comprising:
a mass member assembly including a plurality of mass members, each mass member having an inner surface extending from said mass member and an outer surface, the mass member assembly being affixable to a rotary shaft; and
a plurality of elongated connecting members each extending radially inwardly from the inner surface of each mass member toward the rotary shaft thereby defining a plurality of spaced apart attachment surfaces, wherein each of the plurality of spaced apart attachment surfaces secures the damper in the closed position to the rotary shaft, the mass member assembly being spaced apart from the rotary shaft and being supported by the connecting members directly contacting the shaft to allow the mass member assembly to vibrate by resonance, and the connecting members being subjected substantially to compressive deformation between the mass member assembly and the rotary shaft.
6. (AMENDED) A dynamic damper as in claim 4, wherein the connecting members are equidistantly spaced apart from each other along the inner surface of each of the [cylindrical] mass members.

9. (AMENDED) A dynamic damper as in claim 1, wherein each [the] mass member is insert molded integrally with the connecting members.

10. (AMENDED) A dynamic damper as in claim 4, wherein the connecting members are generally rectangular in shape and extend along at least 25% of the inner surface of [the] each mass member.